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Gay Rights Group Says It Will Publish R-71 Petition Signers Names: NPR W NPR Shop | Login | Register October 21, 2011 support public radio > Search is **U** NOVARTIS **FIND A STATION SEARCH** supported by: arts & life music programs 🔻 listen 🔻 home news HOURLY NEWS PODCASTS News > Politics it's all POLITIC Share Comments (1) Recommend (0) Twitter Facebook New Poll: Cain Leads In Iowa, Romney Second, Rest Gay Rights Group Says It Will Publish R-71 Petition Of Field Lagging Will Cain's New 9-0-9 Tax Plan Really Help The Poor? **Signers Names** by AUSTIN JENKINS more > Add to Playlist Listen to the Story Download [1 min 31 sec] October 18, 2011 from N3 text size A A A OLYMPIA, Wash. - Washington voters who signed an anti-domestic partnership petition in 2009 can expect their names to appear on-line within a month. That's the word Tuesday from a Massachusetts-based gay rights group called "Know Thy Neighbor." Referendum 71 was a failed effort by opponents of gay marriage to repeal Washington's "everything but marriage" domestic partnership law. Now, following a protracted legal battle, a federal judge has ordered the petitions be made public. "Know Thy Neighbor" plans to publish the 130,000-plus names in an online searchable database. NPR thanks our sponsors Become an NPR Sponsor The group has done this before in Arkansas, Florida and Massachusetts. most popular Director Tom Lang says it allows gay people and their allies to search for individual signers they Viewed Recommended Commented know and confront them. He gives examples of stories from other states. "About people who've been in people's weddings parties and they've signed, people in families 1. Obama: 'War In Iraq Is Over'; All Troops Will where the grandmother signed knowing darned well that her grandson was gay," Lang says. Withdraw By Year's End "These are the types of conversations that are being had." 2. New Varieties Haven't Taken The Nutrition Out Of Broccoli Lang denies this is a campaign of intimidation or harassment. But that's exactly what Protect Marriage Washington attorney James Bopp Jr. has argued all along. He's already filed an appeal to 3. School Debt A Long-Term Burden For Many the Ninth Circuit Court. Graduates "Well, our plan is to do everything we can do to protect people's right to participate in our 4. What If We Paid Off The Debt? The Secret democratic process without being subject to death threats and threats of violence and actual Government Report violence," Bopp says.

Bopp points to what happened in California around Proposition 8. In court he introduced evidence that opponents of gay marriage were subjected to vitriolic threats, vandalism and other harassment.

Lang counters there's no evidence his online databases have been used to target people maliciously.

On the Web:

Know Thy Neighbor: http://www.knowthyneighbor.org/

Protect Marriage Washington: http://protectmarriagewa.com/

R-71 FAQs from Wash. Secretary of State:



http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/osos/en/initiativesReferenda/Pages/R-71FrequentlyAskedQuestions.aspx

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Derek Williams (DerekWilliams) wrote:

The accusation that homosexual activists will attack heterosexual signatories is beyond absurd. It is we who have been viciously and relentlessly attacked by homophobic heterosexists for centuries. Pervasive attacks have ranged from statutory discrimination, imprisonment and realignment torture, to religious and social disenfranchisement, ostracism, and extreme violence which in a large number of cases has resulted in life-changing injury, even death.

We have far more to fear from the signatories than they ever had, or ever will from us. Wednesday, October 19, 2011 08:10:07

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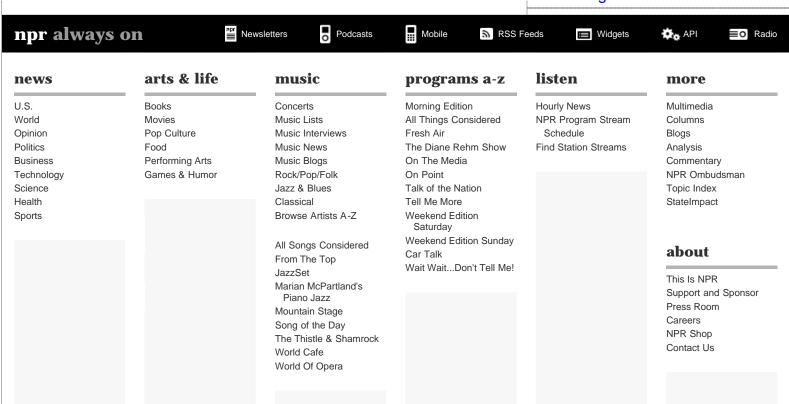
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